

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /091 W
-----061352Z 083078 /44

R 061317Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5820
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EG, LY
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS IMPROVING?

REF: CAIRO 9360

1. CAIRO DAILIES JUNE 6 CARRY NO ANTI-LIBYAN ITEMS, IN
AFTERMATH OF ANNOUNCEMENT (REFTEL) THAT PRIMIN SALIM TO MEET
WITH CHAIRMAN OF LIBYAN GENERAL POPULAR COMMITTEE AL-
UBAYDI. ON OTHER HAND, THERE IS ALSO NO PRESS SPECULATION
THAT A THAW IN EGYPTIAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS CURRENTLY
UNDER WAY. AKHBAR REPORTS THAT BASHIR AL-RABTI, LIBYAN
SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT OF INACTIVE CONFEDERATION OF ARAB
REPUBLICS (EGYPT, SYRIA, LIBYA) WHO APPARENTLY
ARRANGED SALIM-UBAYDI MEETING, HAS RETURNED TO TRIPOLI
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AFTER HIS MEETING WITH PRES SADAT, WHILE GUMHURIYYA
NOTES THAT LIBYA, FOR FIRST TIME IN SEVERAL YEARS,
HAS PAID PART OF LIBYA SHARE OF CAR BUDGET.

2. ALL DAILIES CARRY, WITHOUT COMMENTARY, IRAQI NEWS
AGENCY ITEM FROM TRIPOLI CORRESPONDENT STATING THAT
LIBYAN GOVERNMENT HAD STOPPED ALL ANTI-EGYPTIAN PRESS

STORIES AS OF MIDNIGHT JUNE 4. THIS ITEM PLAYED
VERY LOW KEY AND CAIRO PRESS GIVES NO INDICATION WHETHER
EGYPTIANS WILL RECIPROCALLY TONE DOWN BARRAGE OF ANTI-
LIBYAN ITEMS IN FUTURE.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SAUDI NEWS AGENCY HAS "LEARNED"
THAT SALIM-UBAYDI MEETING TO TAKE PLACE IN CAIRO JUNE 12,
CAIRO PRESS REMAINS SILENT RE DATE AND SKEPTICAL RE
RAPPROCHEMENT. IT WOULD APPEAR, HOWEVER, THAT CAIRO
PRESS HAS RECEIVED GUIDANCE TO PLAY IT COOL ON LIBYA
FOR TIME BEING, SO THAT EGYPTIANS DO NOT APPEAR IN ROLE
OF INTRANSIGENT OPPONENTS OF ARAB UNITY. THUS ALTHOUGH
EGYPTIANS DO NOT TAKE POSSIBLE LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN DETENT
VERY SERIOUSLY, CAIRO PRESS WILL PROBABLY TEMPORARILY
SHELVE ATTACKS ON WHAT IT PREVIOUSLY DUBBED LIBYAN "MADMAN".
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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